



Volume 54, Number 7

# LARC



JULY 2014

## PRESIDENT'S SOAPBOX

As I am writing our July message for the LARC, we are in the middle of our preparation for our Field Day Activities. Getting it all squared away is some effort, with a lot of loose ends and unfinished logistics. However, as in the past, the membership comes together and we get on the air and have a great time. I expect this year to be much the same. This year we have a repaired radio, a new radio, and equipment upgrades made in the past.

As in any activity that includes high technology, ham radio has been transformed by advances in both hardware and software that has refined our definition of what ham radio is all about. However, in the end, it only enables the end result, which is to contact and talk to other ham radio operators around the world. It also provides us with the framework for our participation in the hobby, whether it be the technical side or the people side or both.

I am reminded of the path we all follow as we get new hams to join us in the pursuit of our hobby. It is definitely a learning process, seemingly without end and perhaps it will always be that way. However, when we participate in our hobby we are always standing on the shoulders of those people who have come before us, using the results of their knowledge and passing it on to others. I am amazed at the availability of knowledge of all aspects of our hobby on the internet, where we can search out information with only a few keystrokes. We get our answers, usually in a few seconds, both in text form and with pictures and sometimes videos of the specifics of our questions. I for one do not want to go back to the time that an information search began with a trip to the library and the Dewey Decimal System catalog, with long walks through the book stacks, and longer hours of reading and note taking. I especially like the calculators we can use to model antennas and electronic circuits that include the problem definition and parameters all built in to not only give a correct answer, but also the documentation to understand the process at arriving at the answer.

Currently I am encouraged by all the activities our members are enjoying, racking up WIAW contacts, building antennas and improving stations, helping the club Antenna Trailer Project, and fellowship at the various meetings and informal gathering for meals. Hopefully we will make progress as a club and provide new shoulders for others to stand on to help them enjoy our hobby.

I started this message before field day, but today it IS Field Day #2 (Sunday). We set up near Poche Bridge without incident, except we had to leave our beloved AMOS and antenna trailer behind. When we went to do inventory for Field Day it was obvious that we could not move AMOS or the trailer because of the heavy rains, which had turned Danny's horse pasture to mud and water. Any attempt to move them would have damaged both the pasture and Danny's lawn. We did, however, replace the manual winch on the trailer and connected the new battery on AMOS which promptly started on the second crank.

Here at field day, the bird with its nest in the middle of the road survived the traffic. We can hope that the eggs will hatch normally if not highly stressed from all the close calls.

We are going strong with our stations and may meet last years contact total. Stay tuned and we will have a full report in the next issue.

Mrs. Virgie Aubin (N5JXV) donated radio was used as one of the primary radios and made many contacts. It operated flawlessly. Thanks for the excellent gift. I am sure that many hams will be using it over the years.

Don't forget meeting Thursday night. I hope to see you there.

Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD  
AARA President

### AARA GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, July 3, 2014 @ 7:00 PM at the  
Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat Street, Scott,  
Louisiana.

Larry will give us a Field Day report.  
VE Testing @ 6:00 PM



## EDITOR'S NOTE

It looks like we had two opponents fighting us for our Field Day weekend. One was Mother Nature and the other Murphy's Law. I will explain: We had four options on hand for our field day event. Murphy's Law eliminated three of them and left us with our last option, which turned out to be the best one. Mother nature did her part by Southern Louisiana getting heavy rain almost every day which had some areas flooding. Our AMOS Van and antenna trailer was in storage at Danny Daigle KD5JSM's QTH in the back yard. Due to all the rain and the ground being saturated, it was impossible to retrieve the van and trailer without tearing up his yard. The field day operation had to depend on wire antennas for contacts.

Larry and Sandy KE5KJD and KE5K JF son-in-law, Migeul Morrough, offered his property for us to use. This property has a large metal building with an apartment that is air-conditioned and bathroom facilities. This is a workshop with a large stall work on large machinery. The radios were located in this stall area.

The property also has a swimming pool and a large pond, you might want to call it a small lake stocked with fish. We had permission to fish or swim but at your own risk, however I don't think anyone did any fishing or swimming.

I went to the site at around 11 AM Saturday although I was feeling bad. I am having a couple of medical problems that limits me to many things. Hopefully, the doctors will get me back to normal, whatever that is (ha ha). The main reason I went is to take some photos for our club newsletter. And to send some radiograms. I left around 4 PM as others were just getting there for the night shift.

Larry KE5KJD, our Field Day Chairperson, had all these stations networked together and it looked like things were going very good. The area did not have any power lines near and a very sparsely populated area which made noise levels very low. The operators stated that this was an ideal Field Day site and a beautiful location.

I hope to have more in the August issue of the LARC. Hope to see some of you at the AARA July 3<sup>RD</sup> General Meeting.

Herman KN5GRK

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### GENERAL MEETING

July 3, 2014 @ 7:00 PM  
Red Cross Building  
101 N. Pat Street, Scott, LA.  
VE Testing @ 6:00 PM

2014 SLIDELL EOC HAMFEST  
Saturday July 19, 2014

### Local 2-Meter Nets

#### Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM  
147.150 PL 103.5 Carencro, LA

#### Monday

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

#### Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

#### Wednesday

Bodie's Memorial DX Net  
145.410 New Iberia, LA

#### Thursday

Youth Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

### AARA OFFICERS 2014 - 2015

**President** - Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD  
LarryJamesLeBlanc@centurylink.net

**Vice Pres.** - Jess Gillion - KF5LUL

**Secretary** - Sandy Leblanc - KE5KJF

**Treasurer** - Archie Hill—W5AG

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Paula Romero - KF5CNS

Glen Thibodeaux - KF5FNP

James Williams - KF5RBW

Kendra Wilson - KF5FYS

#### QSL MANAGER

Roland Guidry - NA5Q

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR & PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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The **LARC** is published monthly by the:

### Acadiana Amateur Radio Association

P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday  
of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the  
American Red Cross Building, 101  
North Pat Street, Scott, LA

## JUNE AARA CLUB MEETING MINUTES

June 5, 2014

### CLUB MEETING:

- The AARA meeting was called to order by President Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD.
- Herman Campbell led the prayer and we all prayed for silent keys and members who are ill.
- All said the Pledge of Allegiance.
- We welcomed Tom Dischler W5OHJ back from a brief absence, Happy Birthday to Karen Marshall KE5RPI, and Happy Anniversary to Danny Daigle KD5JSM and Kathy Daigle KD5TJZ.
- Members talked about interesting contacts during the month. A few of the countries contacted by members are: Ireland, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Italy, Home Office of ARRL, Dayton, Ohio (W1AW), Spain, Lithuania, among other contacts.
- Greg Dolan reported that we have 2 new Technicians – Amber Mahler and James Romero. Congratulations!! VE's: Greg Dolan - K5LFT, Tom Dischler-W5OHJ, Ric Wallace-KF5KEL, Mark Saltzman-W5GTI, Galen Wilson-KF5BET, Archie Hill- W5AG

**Minutes:** The April minutes were submitted by Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF, Secretary, and they were posted in the June LARC. On motion by Fred Marshall W5MLE, seconded by Robert Cleveland KD5AYK the minutes were accepted as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** Archie Hill W5AG gave the Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented. The Financial Report is not published in the LARC; any member wanting a copy can contact Archie W5AG.

**Antenna Trailer:** Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD, President, presented a Power Point presentation on the antenna trailer. Nick Romero KE5MWX commented on the presentation. Other items that should be included for the trailer are duct tape, fire extinguisher, spare tire and jack. Fred Marshall W5MLE donated a 3500 pound electric winch. Paula Romero KF5CNS will check to see if the trailer needs a yearly inspection.

**Field Day 2014:** Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD spoke about the possible locations for Field Day. No location is definite at this time. Herman Campbell KN5GRK will send out a message when the location is finalized. The logging software will be N3FJP. Fred Marshall W5MLE has 2 gauge 20 ft. cables that we can use. Volunteers will meet at Danny Daigle's home for a practice run setting up the antenna at 4 pm on Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>.

On motion by Nick Romero KE5MWX, seconded by Tom Dischler W5OHJ, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,  
Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF  
AARA Secretary 2014-2015







## 2014 SLIDELL EOC HAMFEST

Saturday  
July 19, 2014  
Slidell, Louisiana

Sponsored by:  
The Ozone Amateur Radio Club

**Time:** 8 AM - 2 PM

**Location:** John Slidell Park  
Gymnasium, 105 Robert Blvd.,  
Slidell, LA

**Admission:** \$5:00 per person  
which includes 1 raffle ticket

**Talk-in:** 147.270 / .870 PL 114.8

### COMMERCIAL DEALERS & FLEA MARKET

Houston Amateur Radio - MCM  
Computers - Sign Man of Baton  
Rouge - Bamcom - Hub City - Be  
Ready Solar

### VE TESTING

VE Testing is off-site @ the  
Latter Day Saints Building 480  
Robert Blvd, Slidell, LA

### MAIN PRIZES FORUMS

For more info e-mail:  
hamfest@w5sla.net

Website:  
<http://www.w5sla.net>

## VE Test Report June 5, 2014

Amber M. Mahler of Carencro,  
Louisiana received her Technician  
Class License and call KG5CNV.

James F. Romero of Maurice,  
Louisiana received his Technician  
Class License and call KG5CNU.

VE's: Greg Dolan - K5LFT,  
Tom Dischler - W5OHJ, Ric Wal-  
lace - KF5KEL, Mark Saltzman -  
W5GTI, Galen Wilson - KF5BET,  
and Archie Hill - W5AG.

## THE AARA FIELD DAY SCENE

### GOTA STATION

Here is Larry set-  
ting up the GOTA  
Station with Abbi  
KF5BEW and Kendra  
KF5FYS.



### 20 METER HF STATION

Tom W5OHJ operating the ra-  
dio while Jess KF5LUL is han-  
dling the logging.

Jess had his virtual alligator  
"Boudreaux" hanging around  
somewhere, probably filling his  
belly with fish.

### 40 METER HF STATION

Derek KF5VZW (with hat)  
doing the logging while Mark



W5GTI handles the mike on  
the 40 meter station.

They are using the radio  
donated to the club by Vir-  
gie Aubin N5JXV and re-  
ported it worked flawless.

No bad WX during the  
Field Day event.





## AARA Receives Donation

by Herman Campbell KN5GRK

On June 12, 2014, Mrs. Virgie Aubin N5JXV of Baton Rouge called me and wanted to donate the following amateur radio equipment to the Acadiana Amateur Association, Inc. a 501c(3) corporation.

For many years Virgie N5JXV and husband Warren K5DVQ now a SK, operated as a net control stations for the Gulf Coast Sideband Net on 3925 KHz. Both attended our AARA Hamfest when possible.

I have been sending Virgie a complimentary LARC newsletter over the years and she said it is the only way she know what is going on in the ham radio world in Louisiana, especially on the SK's. For this reason, this is why she considered our club for the donation.

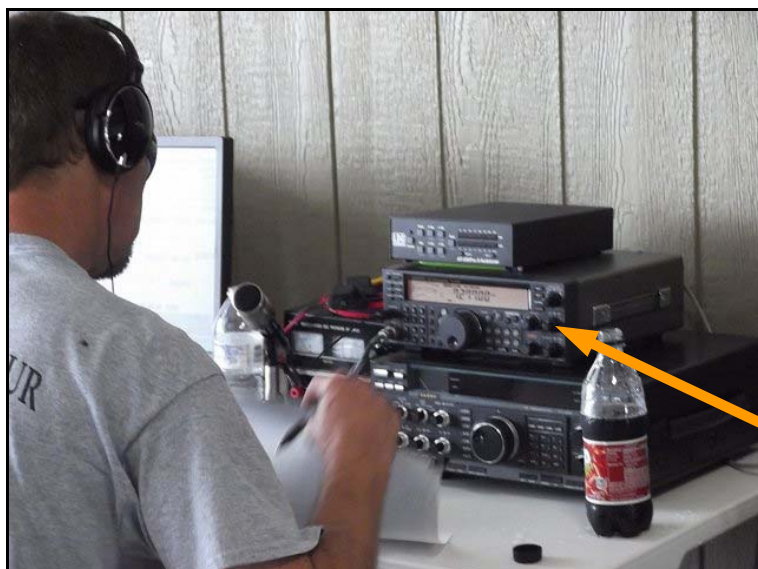
Mrs. Virgie asks in return that we put the above to good use concerning the younger hams and that she continues to receive a complimentary LARC Newsletter.

The AARA would like to thank Ken Vallot KD5YWB for picking up the equipment and delivering it to me for the club.

- 1 - Kenwood TS-570D G (Auto Tuner)  
(160-6 M) Transceiver S/N 30300079  
with operating manual
- 1 - Kenwood Hand Microphone (8 pin Dynamic) S/N n/a
- 1 - Power Cable for above Transceiver
- 1 - Zerich DPS-2512M Power Supply (Adjustable 0-15 vdc)  
30/25 Amp. S/N n/a
- 1 - Heathkit Cantenna Dummy Load
- 1 - 5/8 Mag Mount 2M Mobile Antenna



**Thank  
You  
Mrs. Virgie  
N5JXV**



**The Kenwood TS-570D G being used for the AARA Field Day.....Works really well!**



*from the  
AARA*

## JUNE 2014 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	4	23	Ø	41	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	73	Ø	142	W5GTI Mark
Acadiana ARES Net	3	18	Ø	45	N5LRZ Ray
Bodie's Memorial DX Net	4	27	3	75	N5LRZ Ray
Youth Thursday Night Net	3	23	Ø	41	KF5BEW Abbi KF5FYS Kendra

Without hard work, nothing grows but weeds.

Gordon B. Hinckley

### AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net Rotation

Mark W5GTI the net control station for the AARA Monday Night Net had suggested that the net be rotated between three different area repeaters. Here is the July 2014 schedule.

DATE:	TIME:	REPEATER:	PL TONE:
July 7	7:00 PM	147.040	103.5
July 14	7:00 PM	146.820	103.5
July 21	7:00 PM	145.370	103.5
July 28	7:00 PM	147.040	103.5

When using the SkyWarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL Tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8.

The July 2014 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website at:

[http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/files/monday net.pdf](http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/files/monday%20net.pdf)

**Notice:** On the January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Monday Night Net, Mark made a offer that goes like this:

The top 10 check-ins on the Monday Night AAARA Net during 2014 will get their call/name entered into a drawing and they will receive a Chinese import dual band handi-talkie paid for by Mark W5GTI. **HOW ABOUT THAT?** So be sure to check into the net and thanks to Mark in keeping the net active.



**Killdeer at AARA Field Day**

A female Killdeer had a nest in the middle of the gravel road to our Field Day site. Larry put a chair over her nest plus a green bucket as a marker to keep our Field Day crew from running over her. ***She was not afraid!***

Killdeer nest on open ground, often on gravel. They may use a slight depression in the gravel to hold the eggs, but they don't line it at all, or line it only with a few stones. Since there is no structure to stand out from its surroundings, a killdeer nest blends marvelously into the background. Furthermore, the speckled eggs themselves look like stones.

### AARA



### UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

7/1	K5UA	CHARLES
7/2	WA5KNC	EUGENE
7/18	JOY	N5YCS
7/22	RICK	N5RLM
7/22	RALPH	WB5GAF
7/22	PAT	W5WMU
7/23	KRIS	KD5QYV
8/5	ROY	NG5X
8/9	GLEN	KF5FNP

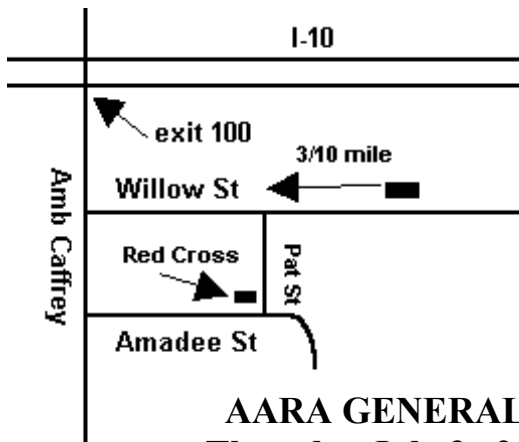
Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.





Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.  
P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a  
Friend to be a HAM !

**AARA GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday July 3, 2014 - 7:00 PM**  
**VE Testing Tonight @ 6:00 PM**  
**Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA**  
**Lunch Bunch - Each Wednesday 10:45 AM - 2:00 PM**  
Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA  
Check 146.820 PL 103.5 - repeater for info.

COMPLIMENTARY  
ISSUE



## Cajun Shrimp and Rice

<http://www.foodnetwork.com/>

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 tablespoon unsalted butter                             | 4 plum tomatoes, chopped             |
| 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil                     | 2 bunches scallions, chopped         |
| 3 cloves garlic, minced                                  | 3 cups cooked white rice             |
| 2 teaspoons Cajun seasoning                              | 3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley  |
| 1 pound large shrimp, peeled and de-veined, tails intact | Lemon wedges, for serving (optional) |
| Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper                    |                                      |

**DIRECTIONS:** Heat the butter, olive oil and garlic in a large skillet over medium-high heat until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the Cajun seasoning and shrimp and cook, stirring, until the shrimp begin to curl, about 1 minute. Season with salt and pepper.

Add the tomatoes and scallions to the skillet and cook, stirring, about 1 minute. Add the rice and 1/4 cup water and continue to cook until the rice is warmed through and the shrimp are opaque, about 3 more minutes. Stir in the parsley and serve with lemon, if desired.



Photograph by Antonis Achilleos

## FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

**[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov)**

FCC Website:

**<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>**

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

**<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>**

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245